Scrappy Lengthwise Scarf

This pattern is more of a *recipe* than a pattern. There is a little super simple math, a textural stitch pattern and the rest is up to you.

The beauty of it all is that after having made of these scarves, no two come out the same. It's a great way to use up scraps of yarn, or you can carefully map out what colors you will place where - it's going to look great no matter what you do! Oh, and it's easy!

by Zona Sherman

SKILL LEVEL

Easy

SIZE | FINISHED MEASUREMENTS

You decide!

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Circular needles at least 2 sizes or more larger than recommended for your yarn type, and long enough to accommodate your cast on stitches.
- Yarn in the same weight, but in various different colors. Yardage required depends on what you want in terms of length and width.
- Stitch markers
- Tapestry needle

GAUGE

You decide!

Legend * Abbreviations

- k: knit
- p: purl
- RS: right side
- WS: wrong side
- CO: cast on
- BO: bind off
- st(s): stitches
- yf: used when the yarn is sitting at the back of the work (when a stitch has been KNITTED) but must be moved to the front before working the next stitch. Bring the yarn from back to front under the right hand needle.
- yb: used when the yarn is at the front of the work (after a PURL stitch has been performed) but has to be moved to the back before the next action is performed. Take the yarn from front to back between the two needles.
- sl1: slip next stitch as if to p.

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PATTERN INSTRUCTIONS

Your Gauge:

First work a gauge swatch with the yarn you have selected. Write and measure how many stitches per inch you have from your gauge swatch.

Calculating Scarf Length:

sts per inch x desired length = # of CO sts

The number of CO sts must be an even number, so if your calculated number of CO sts is an odd number, simply add one st.

Example: If I want a 51 inch long scarf and my gauge is 7 sts per inch, I would multiply 51 by 7, which equals 357. Because that's an odd number, I will add one and make my CO sts 358. Get it?

I don't even do math, but I can bust out that math with no problem! It's easy peasy!

Ready... Set... Go!

CO sts based on your math in the previous step.

Work the Woven Stitch Pattern, switching yarn whenever you want a different color stripe. Work to desired width (or until you get tired of knitting). BO in pattern on a WS row.

FINISHING

Weave in all ends and block.
Viola! Scarf!

Pattern Tips:

Switch your yarn as often as you like. Just make sure that you use the same weight yarn throughout so you will get a uniform fabric. Self-striping and/or yarn with a lot of color variegation works beautifully for this pattern by adding a lot of interest and making it look like you changed yarns way more often than you actually did.

When joining new yarn, always join at the beginning of a new row. This stitch pattern creates a flat fabric and any joins in the middle of a row will cause a bump (unless you know some magical join that I haven't figured out yet! If that's the case, disregard the aforementioned.)

Blocking knits always make them look more "polished," even in a flat fabric. So blocking is recommend, but if you don't block, I won't tell. ☺

Wear it. Love it. Gift it. Oh, and let me see the pics if you make one!

Woven Stitch Pattern:

Row 1 (RS): *k1, yf, sl1*
Row 2 (WS): *p1, yb, sl1*

Pattern formatted and edited by Anne K. Lukito. It is offered on Designer's blog and as a pdf download through Handicraft Café (www.handicraftcafe.com).

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